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COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

AT RICHMOND, MARCH 24, 1998

APPLICATION OF

BELL ATLANTIC-VIRGINIA, INC.

CASE NO. PUC980007

To classify its Prepaid Calling  
Service as Competitive Pursuant  
to Paragraph 4 of its Plan for  
Alternative Regulation

FINAL ORDER

On November 6, 1997, Bell Atlantic-Virginia, Inc. ("BA-VA") filed its application to classify its Prepaid Calling Service as competitive under Paragraph 4 of BA-VA's Plan for Alternative Regulation ("Plan"). By Order of January 30, 1998, the Commission determined that BA-VA's notice to Virginia's certificated interexchange carriers satisfied Paragraph 4.A of the Plan. That Order also provided notice to all affected parties as required by Paragraph 4.A.2 of the Plan and scheduled a hearing for March 19, 1998, to receive evidence about the application.

When the hearing was convened March 19, the Commission received the prefiled direct testimony of Ralph J. Silvestri on behalf of BA-VA and the prefiled direct testimony of Larry J. Cody on behalf of the Commission Staff. Also, BA-VA agreed to revise its tariff according to the suggestion in Mr. Cody's

testimony. Having considered the evidence submitted at the hearing and the lack of opposition, the Commission finds that BA-VA's Prepaid Calling Service should be classified as Competitive pursuant to Paragraph 4.A of the BA-VA Plan. BA-VA's application and the testimony submitted satisfy the requirements of Paragraph 3 of Bell Atlantic's Plan and § 56-235.5.F of the Code of Virginia in that competition in the marketplace is an effective regulator of the price of Prepaid Calling Service due to (i) the ease of market entry and (ii) the presence of other providers reasonably meeting the needs of consumers.

Accordingly, IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

(1) BA-VA's Prepaid Calling Service as filed herein is hereby classified as Competitive pursuant to Paragraph 4.A of the BA-VA Plan for alternative regulation.

(2) There being nothing further to come before the Commission, this case is dismissed and the record developed herein shall be placed in the file for ended causes.